

# ***SAFETY ON THE LINE***

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***“Imagination is more important than knowledge”***

***Albert Einstein***

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## **Lawnmower Safety**

If you live in Florida and have a yard, chances are that you own a mower. Whether it is a push,



self-propelled or a tractor style, these all have one thing in common...they need to be treated with respect.

- The mower is a cutting machine designed to trim grass but has the potential to cut anything that is placed in its path. The cutting edge of the mower blade can travel at speeds of up to 200 miles per hour. Even a dull blade at that speed can slice fingers and toes that get in its way.
- Other materials, such as toys, stones, sticks, and other debris, can become projectiles when struck by the blade. These items, too, can travel up to 200 miles per hour as they leave the discharge chute.
- Protect yourself and those around you when you mow. Before you mow, pick up stray rocks, branches, toys, or anything else that you don't want propelled at you or a loved one. Put on your protective gear: safety glasses, ear plugs or muffs, steel toed shoes, long pants and sunscreen. Stay hydrated!! Drink plenty of water before you mow, take frequent stops to drink some water and then cool down after you are done with another glass of water.

Lawnmower safety boils down to thinking ahead of the inherent hazards and then protecting yourself and others from those hazards. As the saying goes, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”.

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### **Something to think about.....**

***One gallon of gasoline combined with the correct amount of air is equal to 40 pounds of dynamite.***

***TRUE or FALSE?***

***Find out the answer in next months issue!***

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Do you have questions, comments, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite at 867-8520, fax number 867-1120, mail code SA-E or e-mail them at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web at <http://sotl.ksc.nasa.gov>.